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S. C. STATE LIBRARY

South Carolina State Library Board JUL 13 1991

NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

June 1959

23rd Issue

ALA WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

The 78th Annual Conference of the American Library Association will be held in Washington, D. C., June 21 to 27. One of the nation's largest professional gatherings, the ALA Conference will have more than 5500 librarians and library trustees from all parts of the country participating.

The conference theme is "The World of Books." ALA President Emerson Greenaway, Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, will preside at five general sessions. Distinguished speakers include Bennett Cerf, President, Random House, Inc., Dr. Leland D. Jacobs, Teachers College, Columbia University, Catherine Drinker Bowen, author, and Whitney N. Seymour, Chairman, National Book Committee.

At the inaugural banquet on Friday (June 26) evening Arthur S. Flemming, Secretary, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will speak.

Organization and policy matters will be dealt with at meetings of the ALA Council and at a Membership Meeting. There will be more than 325 business and program meetings covering all phases of librarianship. Awards, citations, and scholarships will be awarded during the Conference.

The State Library Association will entertain the South Carolina Congressional Delegation at a luncheon to be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington on Thursday, June 25. This is a part of a program being conducted by the American Association of State Libraries. All other states will entertain their Congressional Delegations and the affair is expected to be one of the highlights of the Conference.

GREENWOOD WINS PUBLICITY AWARD

The outstanding publicity work of the Greenwood City and County Public Library has been recognized with an award of national importance. Miss Elizabeth L. Porcher, Librarian, has been notified that the library's scrapbook has won a John Cotton Dana award. In the class for "county libraries between 25,000 and 100,000 population," Greenwood will receive a citation "for good newspaper publicity highlighted by the move to the new building." Presentation of the award will be made during the ALA Conference by Howard Haycraft, President of the H. W. Wilson Company, at a tea to be given by the company in the Shoreham Hotel.

The annual competition is sponsored jointly by the Wilson Library Bulletin

and the American Library Association's Public Relations Committee. Criteria for selecting winners are based upon John Cotton Dana's pioneer policies of aggressive library service to the community and the publicizing of this service to increase public use of the library.

CONSULTANT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADDED TO STATE LIBRARY BOARD STAFF

Miss Nancy C. Blair, former director of the Spartanburg Public Library and more recently librarian of two elementary school libraries in Columbia, has accepted the position of Consultant for Children and Youth on the staff of the State Library Board. Miss Blair is a graduate of the library school of Columbia University and brings to her new work a wealth of experience in both public libraries and State Library Extension.

In carrying out a program for the improvement of library service for children and youth in South Carolina, Miss Blair will work closely with public libraries throughout the state and with organizations interested in the welfare of children and youth. At present she is compiling the returns on the 1960 White House Conference survey of public library service to children and youth in South Carolina.

NEW PERSONNEL PROJECT ANNOUNCED

As a further step in its program to provide better trained personnel for public libraries, the S. C. State Library Board has completed plans for a program of junior internships to give qualified young people an introduction to the profession of librarianship through the experience of actually working in a good public library.

During the summer of 1959 a pilot project will be conducted in three public libraries selected by the State Library Board on the basis of opportunity provided for worthwhile experience under able supervision. Libraries selected for the pilot project must meet all requirements for State and Federal aid and both board and librarian must be willing to cooperate in this experimental project. On the basis of the results of the 1959 pilot project, the State Board plans to expand the project in 1960 to include a possible ten libraries.

The provisions of the junior internship program are as follows:

1. A junior internship will be a summer position in a public library in South Carolina awarded on a competitive basis to a college junior or senior or to a young teacher who is interested in becoming a public librarian.
2. The period of the internship will be not less than two and one-half months on a full-time basis.
3. Each position will carry a salary of \$150 per month.

4. The library will make public announcement of the junior internship and ask applications for the position.
5. The position will be awarded on the basis of formal application, references and an interview by the head librarian. Priority will be given to applicants interested in librarianship as a profession.
6. The junior intern's work in the library will be planned as an introduction to various phases of public library work with the purpose of giving the intern an opportunity to form an opinion of the opportunities in librarianship.
7. As far as possible, the junior intern will be assigned sub-professional rather than clerical duties.

The cost per internship will be approximately \$400 including Social Security and state retirement matching funds. Of this amount \$200 will be furnished to the pilot library as a grant from the State Library Board.

BOOK SELECTION CONFERENCES

Because of numerous requests for assistance in book selection the State Library Board has received, a series of work conferences on book selection tools were held over the state. Librarians who submit orders for their State Aid allotments participated in the one-day sessions designed to assist them to make wise and economical selections which will lead to a well-balanced book collection.

Miss Frances B. Reid, Field Service Librarian, moderated the conferences which consisted of discussions of S. C. and A.L.A. "Standards of the Book Collection"; general principles of book selection; evaluations of specific basic book selection tools and their various uses in the library.

The conferences were held in the Great Falls Branch of the Chester County Library, Darlington County Library and Orangeburg County Free Library. Each host library board and librarian cooperated to provide conference participants with a cordial welcome and comfortable accommodations for the day. Sincere thanks go to each of them.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1959-60

The State Library Board has received an appropriation for the coming fiscal year of \$104,572. This is the same appropriation the Board received for the current year, but will still make the State eligible to receive federal funds under the Library Services Act. The Board tried unsuccessfully to get through the Legislature an increase in State Aid for 1959-60.

The appropriation to implement the Library Services Act for 1959-60 has not yet passed the U. S. Congress. The appropriation is now before the Senate which it is hoped will approve the full \$7,500,000 authorized in the original legislation.

County library appropriations seem to have done quite well for fiscal 1960. Though no major increases have been reported, most libraries did receive small increases in appropriations or special allotment of funds to purchase major items of equipment such as bookmobiles.

"BOOKS COME FIRST"

The following editorial appeared in the Columbia Record, June 6, 1959:

When a library bookmobile can successfully compete for children's attention with a speeding firetruck, we can take heart that the speedy and the spectacular haven't yet completely superseded the desire for learning.

This is what occurred in Prosperity. A new bookmobile had arrived and was being visited by school pupils. During the visit a firetruck en route to a fire passed and even stopped within view of the schoolgrounds, the fire being only a block away.

"And believe it or not," says The Newberry Observer, "few boys and girls stopped expressing their delight at having a new bookmobile long enough to see what the sirens were all about."

The benefits from these libraries-on-wheels are incalculable. May they continue to roll.

PRELIMINARY REPORT - LIBRARY SECTION OF THE S. C. COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH 1960 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

Surveys covering 29 county, 2 regional and 13 municipal libraries have been received.

Of the 44 libraries included in the surveys, 42 were felt to be inadequately supported. Additional funds are needed to provide the service needed and desired.

The surveys indicate that there are 17 librarians especially trained for work with children and young people. Special collections for young people are provided in 28 libraries.

Eighteen counties report that library service points were located so every school child could reach one alone. In 3 additional counties such service was available to white children only. In another county every school age child could reach a source of library service but not alone.

In addition to the limitations indicated in completing the questionnaires, specific needs, aims and recommendations were appended in some instances.

Support of at least \$1.00 per capita was stressed. This increased support would provide additional staff members to improve both the quality and quantity of the service, especially to children and youth of both races. Other needs which would be met by additional funds were additional books, non-book material and more adequate space.

Legislation for equitable assessing of property and for collection of property tax was urged as was legislation for increased appropriation for the State Library Board to provide increased state aid to library systems.

There was expressed need for closer relationships between the public library and public school officials and for more and better publicity.

A significant recommendation was that the public be informed concerning the status of library resources and inadequate support and that a committee of citizens be formed to spearhead a drive to implement the recommendations.

NLW CONTINUED: CHEROKEE COUNTY

Two book reviews were the highlight of National Library Week in Gaffney. A Dutch book review luncheon was held at the Hotel Carroll on Wednesday with Dr. John Ward Brown reviewing Hamilton Cochran's "Blockade Runners of the Confederacy." Thursday night Dr. Montague McMillan reviewed Elizabeth Jenkin's "Elizabeth the Great," and an informal reception followed.

All civic clubs were asked to have programs on National Library Week, and speakers were provided for several meetings.

Posters were placed in downtown stores, and displays were featured in two stores and a bank. Spot announcements were used on the radio, and the two moving picture theaters used the NLW movie shorts. Four high school students participated in a radio panel discussion on the value of reading.

The schools, white and Negro, observed the week with special displays and chapel programs. A speaker was provided for a chapel program at the high school. Classes of pupils from the elementary schools visited the library during the week.

Friday afternoon an open house was held in the main library with three women's clubs acting as hostesses. Tuesday night a club sponsored open house at the Negro Branch. Thursday afternoon open house was observed in the Blacksburg Branch with the various women's clubs of the town serving as sponsors.

All the children in the elementary schools of Blacksburg visited the Blacksburg Branch during the week.

Limestone College observed the week with special displays and two chapel programs. Students made posters to be placed in downtown stores and in the county library.

KERSHAW COUNTY LIBRARIAN RETIRES

Mrs. Jessie J. Baker for many years librarian of Kershaw County Library has announced her plans to retire on July 1. After that date, she and Mr. Baker will occupy their beach home at Southport, North Carolina.

SPARTANBURG EXPERIMENT

The following article is quoted from the May issue of the State Department of Education's News Letter

Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens, Librarian, Spartanburg High School, writes us of a new experiment which they are trying in the high school. This is what she states. "The Spartanburg High School Library is trying an experiment-opening for two hours two nights a week. It was started to try to meet the demands of the oft' heard cry, 'But I don't have time to go to the library.'

"At a conference between the principal, the librarian, and the library assistant ways and means were discussed. First, we considered staying open later after school, but there were never more than two or three students working in the library as late as four o'clock, this was discarded. Then, knowing of the deluge on the public library at night during term paper time, we discussed night hours. The school is used for adult education classes two nights a week, so is open, lighted and heated then and this seemed to be the solution.

"We tried it, one of us keeps it one night and one the other and we are given time off during the day to make up for the night hours. From the librarian's standpoint, it is most successful. There is no disciplinary problem. Those who come - come to work and helping them is most gratifying."

GIFT TO STATE LIBRARY BOARD

Through the generosity and thoughtfulness of the Georgetown County Memorial Library the State Library Board has been able to add to its general reference and interlibrary loan collection a fairly comprehensive collection of books and pamphlets on firearms of various types. The collection was part of a gift received by the Georgetown Library from one of the large plantation owners in the area. Realizing that the books would still be available locally and at the same time would be of more general usefulness throughout the state, the library passed the gift on to the State Library Board. Among the books included in this collection are:

Allen, Walter Gofton Bird. Pistols, rifles, and machine guns. English Universities. Pr., 1953
Bady, Donald B. Colt automatic pistols, 1896-1955. Fadco Publishing Co., 1956
Datig, Fred A. The Luger pistol (Pistole Parabellum): its history and development from 1893-1945. Fadco Publishing Company, 1955

BEST BOOKS LIST

New Method Book Bindery, Inc., Jacksonville, Illinois, has generously offered to send its customers a free copy of "Best Books for Boys and Girls 1959-60" published by The Bowker Company. If you wish a copy, request it from New Method.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS RELEASED FOR RADIO AND TV USE

The J. B. Lippincott Company has issued a list of Lippincott children's books from which material may be used for non-profit radio or television programs, i.e., programs not commercially sponsored or money-making in any sense. For a copy of the list and a statement of conditions of use, write to Miss Mary E. Harvey, School-Library Department, J. D. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania.

YOUR PROBLEMS

by
Anne Library

Dear Anne:

I have worked for years to interest children in using our county library and bookmobile. Our county is poor and our book budget very limited. We do not have many adult readers so I spend most of the budget for children's books. The children and teachers are always eager for new titles. Recently a man brought his young son to story hour and waited for him in the library. He looked over our collection, then came to me and complained bitterly that he saw nothing of masculine appeal. How could he expect me to buy books for men who seldom use the library when I have so many children who read our books constantly? The man was utterly without understanding.

Suffering Sue

Dear Sue:

The gentleman is not the only one without understanding. What has happened to you? Have you completely forgotten that the public library's function is to serve every citizen? Consult your Standards and you'll discover that your responsibility is to all segments of your county's population, potential as well as actual readers. Wake up! Your suffering is largely self-inflicted.

Dear Anne:

It will soon be time for our librarian and board to make up the budget for next year and this brings up the question of whether I should ask for a raise. I have been

here more than ten years now doing bookmobile work. I came straight from my junior year in college and have worked hard and faithfully. For the first five or six years I got fairly regular though never large increases in salary but since then I have had no raise except once when all salaries were adjusted to take care of the increased cost of living. Meanwhile, other people employed only a year or two have been receiving the increases that I used to get. This does not seem fair and I asked the librarian about it last year. She said that this happened because I had reached the top salary level for my position. In fact she talked as though I had no hope of ever getting an increase again unless there should be another general adjustment. I don't understand this. Aren't my years of experience and hard work worth anything? Surely as long as I continue to work to the best of my ability and the bookmobile service continues to do well, I should have some right to expect a raise? Do you think the librarian could be taking advantage of me because she knows that family responsibilities prevent my leaving here?

Uncertain

Dear Uncertain:

No, you are not being taken advantage of. Now brace yourself for some bad news. You really don't have much hope for another salary raise as long as you remain in your present job. Whether it seems fair or not, a salary is paid primarily for the job done rather than for the person who does it. The first year on a job an employee learns what he is supposed to do and how to do it, and is paid a minimum salary for this. As he improves the consequent increase in the value of his work to the library is reflected in his salary. But within a few years he reaches his maximum worth in that job and unless he can move upward into another position, his salary reaches its maximum too. This is the spot that you are in now.

Your only hope lies in promotion to a better job. If you could arrange your family affairs so that you might have time to finish college and perhaps obtain a little training in library science, you might qualify for a better job and thus start afresh on a higher salary schedule.

Do you have a problem? Write to Anne Library

SEEN HERE AND THERE

Miss Estellene Walker, Director of the South Carolina State Library Board, being appointed an advisory member to the South Carolina Confederate Centennial Commission. This Commission was established by Act of the General Assembly to commemorate South Carolina's part in the War Between the States. Its chairman is Representative John A. May of Aiken, a former member of the State Library Board.

Mr. M. G. Patton, chairman of the South Carolina State Library Board, recovering from a bout with virus pneumonia. Mr. Patton is now at his home in St. George and is convalescing rapidly.

Mrs. F. T. Waddill working on the organization of a "Friends of the Library" for Cheraw.

Mrs. Vernon Brunson off for a week-end at Folly Beach.

Miss Annie James preparing for a week's vacation in the mountains.

Mrs. Elizabeth Green on a tour of Florida.

Librarians all over the state busily preparing for summer Reading Clubs.

Mrs. Martha Griffin, town clerk and librarian at McBee, recovering from a recent operation.

Mrs. Lillian H. Gettys resigning as chairman of the McCormick County Library Board.

The special library subcommittee of Colleton County Committee on Children and Youth publishing the results of its survey of the Colleton County Memorial Library.

Lancaster County Library showing the annual High School Art Exhibit.

Lexington County Library receiving record albums from the Fine Arts Committee of the Lexington Literary Club. More than 20 albums of serious music were included in the gift. Records will be loaned to all of high school age and over, and to children accompanied by parents.

Florence Public Library publicizing old recipes and books with "financial tips."

Miss Emily Sanders and Miss Josephine Crouch making plans to attend the ALA Conference.

Mr. Charles Busha, Greenville Intern, attending National Guard Camp.

Miss Rachel Ellis, Charleston Intern, beginning her third summer at the Emory library school.